

Celine: 19 weeks and still growing

SALES

Proving that the number 16 peak of *Take A Bow* – her 35th and smallest hit – was just a blip, **Madonna** returns triumphantly to the chart this week, debuting at number four with *Bedtime Story*. Meanwhile, *Take A Bow* climbs to the top of the US chart to become her first number one there since *This Used To Be My Playground*, and her 11th in all – a new record for a female solo artist. Maddy has had seven number one hits in the UK, the last coming in 1990.

Had *Bedtime Story* sold a few more copies last week, the UK would have had a rare all-female top three. Instead, newcomers **MN8** creep into third place behind the already-flagging **Annie Lennox**, and **Celine Dion**, who surges ahead on her fourth week at number one with *Think Twice*.

For a single to increase its sales after 19 weeks on the chart is unprecedented. Not surprisingly, Celine spends a fifth week at the top of the album chart, where she is currently outselling nearest rivals **Free The Spirit** in a ratio of 100:30.

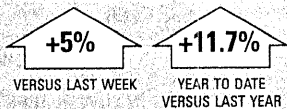
Much-touted in 1993, **Elastica** are beginning to justify their critical acclaim and debut at 13 this week with their third and biggest hit to date, *Waking Up*. And if you think you detect a Stranglers influence, you're right, as the amended writing credits of the song confirm.

The compilations market is buoyant, with seven of this week's 11 best-selling albums TV-advertised multi-artist packages. Newcomer **Global TV** – a division of BMG – has its first number one only three months after its launch, climbing to the top of the stack with *On A Dance Tip*.

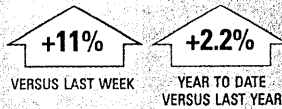
Violin prodigy **Vanessa-Mae's** single *Toccata & Fugue* continues to climb the singles chart, while her album, *The Violin Player*, makes a strong debut at 11. Though released through EMI Classics, this album is not eligible for the Classical chart, as – apart from the Bach-composed single – it comprises entirely new material penned by **Mike Zatt**, writer of hits like *A Winter's Tale* (David Essex), *I Feel Like Buddy Holly* (Alvin Stardust), *Please Don't Fall In Love* (Cliff Richard), *Bright Eyes* (Art Garfunkel) and, most famously, a whole slew of *Wombles* hits.

After outstanding sales in 1994 (see front page), the record industry is off to a flying start in 1995. Compare this week with the same week last year and album sales are up by 5%, while singles have surged 11%. The cumulative figures for the year so far show albums up a still creditable 2.2% with singles up 11.7%. **Alan Jones**

SINGLES UPDATE



ALBUMS UPDATE



SALES AWARDS

Platinum: **Madonna:** *Like A Prayer* (x4); **Simply Red:** *Men & Women* (x3); **Various:** *The Best Country Album In The World... Ever!*
Gold: **Free The Spirit:** *Pan Pipe Moods*; **Various:** *The Ultimate Soul Collection*; **Various:** *Pulp Fiction (OST)*; **Various:** *Endless Love*; **Various:** *Dance Mania '95 - Vol 1*.
Silver: **Annie Lennox:** *No More I Love You* (single).

PLAYLIST ADDS

Radio 1 FM: w/c 16.02.95: B List: *Aaliyah - Age Ain't Nothing But A Number*; *Dionne Farris - I Know*; *Rozalla - (I Don't Even Know If I Should Call You) Baby (Love To Infinity's Classic Paradise Mix)*; *Sophie B. Hawkins - As I Lay Me Down*; *Des'ree - You Gotta Be*. **C List:** *Radiohead - High & Dry*; *Prince Ital Joe featuring Marky Mark - United*; *Kenny 'Dope' presents The Bucketheads - The Bomb*; *Bruce Springsteen - Murder Incorporated*; *Annie Lennox - I Can't Get Next To You*.
Capital FM: w/c 14.02.95: B List: *Sophie B. Hawkins - As I Lay Me Down*; *Janet Jackson - Whoops Now*. **C List:** *The Go Gos - The Whole World Lost Its Head*; *Shampoo - Delicious*.
Virgin 1215: w/c 18.02.95: B List: *Bruce Springsteen - Murder Incorporated*. **C List:** *Heather Nova - Walk This World*; *Dionne Farris - I Know*. **D List:** *The Go Gos - The Whole World Lost Its Head*; *Dodgy - Making The Most Of*.
MTV Europe: w/c 20.02.95: dEUS - Hotel Lounge; *Sheryl Crow - Strong Enough*; *Snap - The First: The Last Eternity*; *Scooter - Move Your Ass*.

THIS WEEK'S HITS

Singles

NUMBER ONE: **Think Twice** Celine Dion – Epic
HIGHEST NEW ENTRY: **Bedtime Story** Madonna – Maverick/Sire
HIGHEST CLIMBER: **I Alone Live** – Radioactive
NUMBER ONE R&B SINGLE: **I've Got A Little Something For You** MN8 – 1st Avenue/Columbia
NUMBER ONE DANCE SINGLE: **Feel It** Carol Bailey – Multiplay

Albums

NUMBER ONE: **The Colour Of My Love** Celine Dion – Epic
HIGHEST NEW ENTRY: **Smart Sleeper** – Indolent
HIGHEST CLIMBER: **The Hits** Garth Brooks – Liberty
NUMBER ONE COMPILATION: **On A Dance Tip** – Global

Airplay

NUMBER ONE SINGLE: **No More I Love You**
Annie Lennox – RCA
BIGGEST GROWER: **You Are Everything**
Melanie Williams/Joe Roberts – Columbia
MOST ADDED: **As I Lay Me Down**
Sophie B. Hawkins – Columbia

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AIRPLAY

While **Celine Dion** stays a safe distance ahead of **Annie Lennox** at retail, the two records are the other way around in the airplay rankings, with *Annie's No More I Love You* grabbing the largest audience of the year so far. Despite proving its superiority in sales terms, *Think Twice* has had to fight all the way for airplay, with new stations coming on board as recently as a fortnight ago. Its tally of 900 plays this week represents a new high for the disc which, after all this time, still hasn't managed to penetrate **Radio 1's** Top 20.

Continuing to show an independence of thought that few of its commercial rivals can challenge, **Radio 1** is, for example, championing the wonderful **Tabernacle** single *I Know The Lord*, which was played by **Steve Wright** every day last week. An Italo-house-style disc based around a 1940s sample of acapella gospel singing by a long-dead diva, it enjoyed Club Chart success before Christmas, and is scheduled for release on the independent **Good Groove** label. It debuts at 37 on the airplay chart this week.

Atlantic 252's distinctive programming continues to make its presence felt on the chart. The station is, for example, playing *Sight For Sore Eyes* by **M People** and *Another Night* by the **Real McCoy** far more than their current hits, *Open Your Heart* and *Run Away*. It also accounts for roughly half of all plays of **New Order's** *True Faith '94* and played the **Pretenders' I'll Stand By You** 30 times last week, thus precipitating its return to the Top 50 of the airplay chart some 10 months after its release.

Capital FM is also fairly conservative, its playlist characterised by the number of recent big hits it continues to play, but it's one of the first stations to leap on board **Janet Jackson's** extremely commercial *Whoops Now*. A bonus track on the album *Janet* (that is, you won't find it listed on the sleeve, but will find it secreted at the end of the album), it is the only unproven hit in the **Capital Top 50**, debuting at number 25 with 14 plays. *Whoops Now* is ostensibly a double A-side with *What'll I Do*, but is getting the lion's share of early airplay. For airplay chart purposes, the two songs will be tracked and charted separately.

Two records firmly established in the Top 20 of the sales chart continue to attract little attention from radio. **Radio** just doesn't seem to like **Bill Whelan's** *Riverdance* (see p22) or **Vanessa-Mae's** *Toccata & Fugue*. **Alan Jones**

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